Washington Yu Ying Public Charter School
Allen Zhong

- In Washington, DC
- Opened in 2008
- IB PYP Curriculum Framework (Inquiry-based)
- PreK 3 & PreK 4 Full Chinese Immersion
- K-5th Grade 50% Partial Chinese Immersion
- High-performing School (Tier 1 school several years in a row)
- One of the most diverse schools in the U.S.
- Total enrollment: 569 students
Early Childhood Program

1. Kingdergarten: 4 classes, 20 students each, 2 teachers, 50% partial immersion
2. PreK-4: 4 classes, 19/20 students each, 2 teachers, full immersion
3. PreK-3: 4 classes, 16 students each, 2 teachers, full immersion (Since 2014)
Curriculum: IB PYP

PreK-4 Transdisciplinary Themes (units):

1. Who we are: Myself
2. How we express ourselves: Play
3. How the world works: Materials
4. Sharing the planet: Bugs

Math: Number sense, shapes, sorting, data handling, measuring, pattern
Curriculum: Play-based, exploratory, hands-on
Curriculum: Student driven, authentic experience
Staffing: challenges!

1. 20 Chinese teachers: 10 lead teachers and 10 assistant teachers (teaching fellows)--Yu Ying subsidized daycare

2. New teacher training: IB PYP curriculum, Chinese immersion, language acquisition, classroom management, working with young children, expectations at Yu Ying...

3. Visa requirement: H1B lottery, Q1 cultural, J1

4. Finding qualified substitutes
Staffing: Professional development (PD)

1. In house PD: approx. 9 PD days. E.g.: Yu Ying Ted Talk

2. Outside PD: Education admin suggestion, teacher initiate

Logos:
- Naeyc: National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Ib Baccalaureate
- Actfl: American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
- National Chinese Language Conference
Staffing: Mentor mentee program

1. One-to-one assistance

2. Teaching Fellow Learning Collaborative
Staffing: CRIS internship

**CRIS internship:** Career Readiness in Immersion Schools Internship

**When and Who:** Two one week long sessions in March, soon-to-be graduates

**What:** observe and learn successful immersion practices, attend seminars on language learning, attend team meetings, inquiry pedagogy, opportunities to practice teaching with observation and feedback, build resume, practice
Teacher Perspective: Challenges and Joys

Social Emotional Development:

“当你生气的时候，你要深呼吸，三次！”（When you are upset, you should take a deep breath, three times!）

“如果你要玩别人的玩具，不可以抢，你要说：“你可以分享吗？我可以和你玩吗？”（If you want to play with a toy that someone has, you can’t snatch, you need to say: “Can you share or can I play with you?”）
Teacher Perspective: Challenges and Joys

Passion about learning Chinese and learning in general!
What we need:

1. We need more research on early childhood mandarin immersion.
2. We need more collaborations/sharings between different early childhood mandarin immersion programs to grow together!